

NIS file

9 March 1950

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Childs

SUBJECT: NIS Reports

25X1 1. I have just been discussing the problem of NIS reproduction with [redacted] and I agree fully with the approach that:

- a. We should drastically cut the total number of NIS reports being reproduced today on the basis that we will establish a quick method for their reproduction when they will be needed in volume, and
- b. We should recommend a changed concept of not applying a basic number for all reports across the board. The National Intelligence Survey Reports of some areas and some countries will always be much more in demand than those of other segments of the world.


2. As to cutting down the number now on the basis of adopting a system which will meet future demands, we run into the current problem of what to do with changes, amendments, and supplements. I recommend that we give serious consideration to following a new approach as to the methodology of supplementing the basic NIS volumes. Up until now we have always talked about physically eliminating certain pages and supplanting them by new pages. I believe that we should give sympathetic consideration to following the tried and tested method of commercial concerns. The material in the various encyclopedic publications issued by commercial houses is constantly being amended and supplemented. Their system, however, is to issue periodically, usually on an annual basis, a yearly supplement making all the necessary changes and additions to the information in the basic volumes. By this method, there is no laborious process of deletion and insertion of pages and furthermore, the necessary information can be found in the basic volume and checked through the supplement or supplements in a matter of a few minutes.

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(over)

We should also give consideration to making more than one master so that if the Armed Services need to issue copies to Theatre Commands or force commands, or sections of the NIS to lower operational levels, they may do so without creating a constant recurring headache for CIA by demanding more & more volume on different occasions.

Henry suggests that if this be done we might recommend at least a central reporting of such distribution so as to maintain a modicum of control.



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March 9

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

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Serial 0551P32

28 Feb 1950

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From: Director of Naval Intelligence
To: Director of Central Intelligence

Subj: NIS Publication

Ref: (a) ONI Serial 529P32 of 9 Dec 1949
(b) ONI Serial 851P32 of 21 Feb 1950

1. Reference (a) reduced the Navy requirement from 326 copies to 216 copies. Reference (b) effected a further reduction of 50 copies. At present it is believed that reduction below the 156 copies now requested cannot be effected and still meet the Navy's minimum requirements. However, the matter will be kept under continuing review.

FELIX JOHNSON

CIRCULATE
IN COAPS

CHIEF	
STATE	<i>Small</i>
ARMY	<i>3</i>
NAVY	<i>6</i>
AIR	<i>1</i>
FILES	
RETURN TO	

CONFIDENTIAL